



**EUROPE:** In western Europe, mostly dry weather favored fieldwork from England southward through France into the Iberian peninsula. Winter wheat is approximately 75 percent harvested in England, while sunflower harvesting is likely well advanced in France. Sunflower harvesting is reportedly progressing across the Iberian peninsula, and corn harvesting recently began in extreme southern Spain. In central Europe, occasional showers (10-25 mm) from Scandinavia southward through Germany into central Italy maintained adequate moisture supplies for filling to maturing summer crops. Periods of dry weather allowed late winter wheat harvesting to progress in the north and encouraged early summer crop harvesting elsewhere. Scattered showers (4-30 mm) in eastern Europe arrived too late to help drought-stricken summer crops in the southeast, but provided some much-needed topsoil moisture for winter grain planting. The rain caused only minor interruptions in sunflower and early corn harvesting. Additional soaking rains will be needed in upcoming weeks, especially from Hungary southward through Bulgaria to relieve long-term drought and ensure proper seed germination and establishment of the 2001 winter grain crop.